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Timothy Mooney to Perform One-Man Show at IWU

March 18, 2005

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Illinois Wesleyan University will host the performance of comedian, playwright, and actor Timothy Mooney in his one-man show *Molière Than Thou* on Friday, April 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the Hansen Student Center (300 E. Beecher St., Bloomington). There will be a question and answer session following the show, which is free and open to the public.

Mooney, who has worked in theatre for 30 years, has translated, adapted, and re-written some of French playwright Molière's best plays. *Molière Than Thou* combines the greatest parts of these plays in a comedic fictitious story of something Molière (1622-1673) might have written.

In Mooney's *Molière Than Thou*, the main character, Molière, has been deserted by his cast on the opening night of a new play, the cast having become sick with food poisoning at a local inn. Because Molière does not want to lose the box office profits, he decides to perform a succession of acts taken from his most successful plays, making a few digs at some of his enemies in the process.

Critics say Mooney has "reinvigorated" renaissance theatre through his re-writing of Molière. Mooney's plays have been praised as "surprisingly accomplished and funny" (*Chicago Tribune*), "animated" (*LA Weekly*), and "outrageous and cleverly wrought" (*San Francisco Bay Guardian*).

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